



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

News Release

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BUFFALO DETENTION OFFICERS ARREST DRUG FUGITIVE

New Fugitive Operations Team Hits the Streets of Upstate New York

Buffalo, N.Y. - Officers from the Buffalo Office of Detention and Removal arrested Emmanuel Aboagye, of Ghana yesterday as a fugitive from justice. The 51-year-old man was ordered deported by an immigration judge, but instead of reporting for his removal, Aboagye became a fugitive. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Deportation Officers are charged with enforcing removal orders issued by judges. He was ordered removed from the United States in immigration court based on criminal convictions for Possession of a Controlled Substance, Attempted Sale of a Controlled Substance, Grand Larceny, Possession of Stolen Property, and Driving While Intoxicated. Aboagye was arrested after a surveillance team located his residence and he will be held without bond pending his removal from the United States.

Buffalo Detention and Removal Director William M. Cleary said, "While this arrest involves only one individual, we want to send a clear message that if a person is ordered deported and becomes a fugitive, we will enforce the law." Cleary said that the Buffalo area now has a dedicated fugitive operations team which will be targeting individuals with final orders of removal who fail to obey the judges order to leave the country. During fiscal 2005 Buffalo detention officers arrested 221 fugitives. The Buffalo area of operations covers all of upstate New York, other than New York City and the surrounding Burroughs.

The Fugitive Operations Team involves two units. One will be responsible for locating and arresting fugitives from justice. The field unit will then turn the targets over to the second unit which will be responsible for processing the individuals, obtaining travel documents from their countries of birth and removing them from the United States.

Cleary said, "Fugitives living in New York State should be on notice that ICE has the resources, the team and the expertise to locate, apprehend and enforce the courts removal order. Cleary said the message to fugitives is simple, "If you are a fugitive we are going to find you and deport you!"

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.